

REMARKS

SUMMARY OF THE AMENDMENTS

5 The present application contains 27 claims. Claims 15, 17, 31 and 39 are independent.

Claims 1-14, 41-44 and 46-47 have been cancelled.

10 Claims 15, 17, 31 and 39 have been recast in independent form, including all of the limitations of the respective former base claim and the respective former intervening claims, if any.

DETAILED RESPONSE TO ACTION

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A. Allowable subject matter

The applicant gratefully acknowledges the potential allowability of claims 15-40 and 45, as indicated by the Examiner on page 8 of the Office Action.

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B. Objection to claim 42

On page 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to claim 42 for an informality. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's objection is moot in
25 view of the cancellation of claim 42.

C. Rejection of claims 1-5, 33-34 [sic] and 43-44 under 35 USC 102

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 33-34 [sic]
30 and 43-44 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Prasad et al. (U.S. Patent 6,275,491). However, it is believed that the Examiner intended to reject claims 1-5, 41-42 and 43-44 in this section (rather than claims 1-5, 33-34 and 43-44). This is supported by the fact that certain elements that the Examiner refers to in the discussion of claims 33-34 (namely, the CPU) are actually recited

in claims 41-42. In addition, claims 33-34 are dependent on claim 31, which was not rejected under any grounds. Moreover, the subject matter indicated as being allowable on page 8 of the Office Action includes claims 33 and 34.

- 5 Accepting therefore that the Examiner has intended to reject claims 1-5, 41-42 and 43-44, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-5 and 41-44.

D. Rejection of claims 6-9 under 35 USC 103

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On page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 6-9 under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Prasad et al. (U.S. Patent 6,275,491) in view of Murata et al. (U.S. Patent 5,686,905). In view of the cancellation of claims 6-9, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection is moot.

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E. Rejection of claims 10-14 and 46-47 under 35 USC 103

On page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 10-14 and 46-47 under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Prasad et al. (U.S. Patent 6,275,491) in view of Masaaki (U.S. Patent 6,438,143). In view of the cancellation of claims 10-14 and 46-47, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection is moot.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant is of the view that claims 15-40 and 45 are in allowable form. Favourable reconsideration is requested. Early allowance of the
5 Application is earnestly solicited.

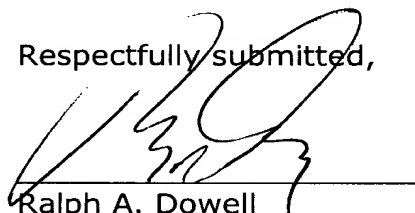
If the application is not considered to be in full condition for allowance, for any reason, the Applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner in drafting one or more acceptable claims pursuant
10 to MPEP 707.07(j) or in making constructive suggestions pursuant to MPEP 706.03 so that the application can be placed in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

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Respectfully submitted,

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